

Abstract

To protect vehicle occupants in dangerous situations, the distance (a) of the vehicle (1) to a roadside object, such as a guardrail (2), etc., is determined and compared to a critical distance (a_{crit}). If the actual distance is less than the critical distance, alarm
5 devices (16) are triggered and/or reversible restraining means are deployed. The critical distance (a_{crit}) may be determined as a function of the host vehicle velocity (V_{host}).

(Figure 1)